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May 15, 2006

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DATE OF MAILING

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U.S.S.N.:

10/797,220

FILING DATE:

03/10/2004

APPLICANT:

ALAN B. DUELL

GROUP ART UNIT:

1723

EXAMINER:

CHARLES E. COOLEY

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

HES 2003-IP-009653U1 (063718.0399)

TITLE:

"SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MIXING WATER AND NON-AQUEOUS MATERIALS USING MEASURED WATER CONCENTRATION TO CONTROL

ADDITION OF INGREDIENTS"

INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING FOR THE ABOVE-REFERENCED PATENT APPLICATION ARE:

1. Response to Restriction Requirement; and

2. Return postcard to acknowledge receipt of this item.

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PTO CUSTOMER ID NUMBER:

023640

Application of:

Alan B. Duell

Serial No.:

10/797,220

Filed:

March 10, 2004

Title: "System and Method for Mixing WATER AND NON-AQUEOUS MATERIALS USING

MEASURED WATER CONCENTRATION TO CONTROL ADDITION OF INGREDIENTS"

Group Art Unit:

1723

Examiner:

Cooley, Charles E.

**PATENT** 

Atty. Docket No.:

HES 2003-IP-009653U1

063718.0399

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING VIA EXPRESS MAIL

PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE INFORMATION AND A REASONABLE BASIS FOR BELIEF THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE, ON THE DATE BELOW, AND IS ADDRESSED TO:

> MAIL STOP AMENDMENT HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Honorable Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DATE OF MAILING: **EXPRESS MAIL LABEL:** 

May 15, 2006 EV588887502US

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

The Applicant responds to the Office Action mailed April 17, 2006 (the "Office Action"), as follows:

## Response to Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, Examiner issued a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121. (Office Action at 2.) In response to this restriction requirement, Applicant

PAGE 1 OF 3

HOU02:1067321.1

ATTORNEY DOCKET: HES 2003-IP-009653U1

elects for examination on the merits, without traverse, claims 1-32. Applicant withdraws claims

33-44 at this time. Applicant reserves the right to take up prosecution of claims 33-44 in an

appropriate continuation, continuation-in-part, or divisional application.

Response to Species Election Requirement

In the Office Action, Examiner has required a species election under

35 U.S.C. § 121. (Office Action at 3.) With respect to this election requirement, the Examiner

stated that:

This application contains claims directed to the following

patentably distinct species:

a. Species A: Figures 1 and 2;

b. Species B: Figures 3 and 4.

Upon the election of either Group I or Group II, Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for

prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims

1, 18, and 33 appear to be generic.

(Office Action at 2-3.)

In response, the Applicant hereby provisionally elects Species A with traverse. In

accordance with this election requirement, Applicant identifies claims 1-16, 18-31, and 33-44 as

falling within the elected species. As noted above, claims 33-44 have been withdrawn in

response to the restriction requirement imposed by Examiner. Claims 17 and 32 fall outside the

elected species but are dependent on generic claims (1 and 18 respectively) and should be

allowed if the corresponding generic claims are allowed. Applicant requests that these claims be

held in abeyance pending resolution of the patentability of the corresponding generic claims.

Applicant reserves the right to pursue additional species should a generic be allowed, or in a

divisional or other continuing application.

HOU02:1067321.1

PAGE 2 OF 3

U.S.S.N. 10/797,220 Response to Non-Final Office Action Mailed April 17, 2006 ATTORNEY DOCKET: HES 2003-IP-009653U1

**SUMMARY** 

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits

that the application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit early notice of the

same. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the

prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by

telephone, facsimile or electronic mail, as indicated below.

Applicant believes that there are no fees due in association with the filing of this

Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any fees are due, including any fees

for any extensions of time, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner accept this as a

Petition therefore, and direct that any fees be debited from Baker Botts L.L.P., Deposit Account

No. 02-0383, (formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.) Order Number 063718.0399.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKKER BOTTS L.L.P. (02:

Date: May 15, 2006

HOU02:1067321.1

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PAGE 3 OF 3